



News Release

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Minot Business to Receive SBA Award in Washington, D.C.

*SBA Administrator's Award for Excellence goes to
JoAnne Johnson Contracting, LLC*

FARGO – JoAnne Johnson Contracting, LLC will be honored with the *SBA Administrator's Award for Excellence* during its *SBA Expo '05: Celebrating National Small Business Week* in Washington, D.C. on April 26 – 28th.

The award recognizes small businesses that have provided the government with outstanding goods and services as a prime contractor. JoAnne Johnson Contracting was nominated for an award by Lynda Sena-Hunt, Contracting Officer for the General Services Administration in Denver, Colorado.

JoAnne Johnson joined her husband in the residential landscaping business in 1980. Each year the company took the opportunity to expand its services and today, JoAnne Johnson Contracting, LLC has grown to include all types of general construction services, facility and contract management, marketing/consulting and remediation services. From the beginning, the company's mission statement has been "to provide a product or service that meets or exceeds our customer's needs."

"The team at JoAnne Johnson Contracting has done an *outstanding* job on the new Port of Entry in Raymond, Montana, and we were pleased to recommend them for recognition during National Small Business Week," said Sena-Hunt. JoAnne Johnson Contracting won the GSA contract through the U.S. Small Business Administration's 8(a) program which helps small firms

compete with larger corporations for federal contracts. JoAnne Johnson Contracting was the general contractor for the three-building complex; to date, it is the firm's largest as a general contractor.

SBA Expo '05 is an annual celebration of National Small Business Week which will feature special events, including award ceremonies honoring the nation's top entrepreneurs and state and national small business winners. This year, five North Dakota businesses will be honored by the SBA.

C.S. DuBois Construction, Inc. of Fargo and Coal Creek Construction of Underwood will also be honored with the *Administrator's Award for Excellence* recognizing their outstanding work as prime contractors.

J & G Landscaping, Inc. of Emerado will be honored as SBA's *Region VIII Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year* and will compete with nine other Regional winners for the national Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year award. Region VIII includes the states of Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming.

Jon Swegarden and John Lund, of Precision Diagnostic Services, Inc. in Fargo, will be honored as SBA's *2005 North Dakota Small Business Persons of the Year* and will compete for the national Small Business Person of the Year award.

For more than 40 years, National Small Business Week has recognized outstanding small business owners for their personal achievements and contributions to our nation's economy. Each year since 1963, the President has issued a proclamation calling for the celebration of Small Business Week.

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